Statement Regarding Government Business

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 1st of August, 2005 will consist of:—

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.
2. Discussion on the Statutory Resolution seeking approval of the President's rule in the State of Bihar beyond 6th of September, 2005.
3. General discussion on Bihar Budget, 2005-06.
4. Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bill relating to Demands for Grants on Account (Bihar) for 2005-06, after it has been passed by Lok Sabha.
5. Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bills relating to following Demands, after they have been passed by Lok Sabha:—
   a. Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2005-06.
   b. Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2002-03.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION
Kyoto Protocol

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to raise an issue of great political and economic importance that took place yesterday. My colleague, former Minister for External Affairs, Shri Yashwant Sinha, raised this issue yesterday. Yesterday, he raised that issue on the basis of a speculative newspaper report, and today I stand to raise this issue on the basis of a confirmed development that took place yesterday in Vientiane, the capital of Laos.

Sir, yesterday, six nations, namely, the United States, Japan, Australia, South Korea, China, and India signed, what is called, the Asia-

Pacific Partnership for Clean Development and Climate. This is a development of profound significance that has taken place. And it took place in the background of concerns that have been raised in this country as to how long India will be outside the Kyoto Protocol.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

Sir, as everybody knows, India and China are the two countries outside the Kyoto Protocol, which enjoins upon countries to reduce the emission of greenhouse gasses, mainly Carbon Dioxide and Methane. The statement, which was issued by the six countries yesterday in which the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Rao Inderjit Singhji, was also present says, "This new initiative by these six countries is in consonance with the UN Framework Convention of Climate Change signed in 1992 and is in keeping with the Kyoto Protocol signed in 1997." Sir, the concerns that I raise today are the following.

The statement that had been issued yesterday says, "The partnership seeks to promote and create an enabling environment for the development, diffusion, deployment and transfer of existing and emerging, cost-effective, cleaner technologies and practices." In actual practice, what I would like to know, Sir, is whether this new Convention that these six countries have signed imposes any obligation on India to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gasses in a time-bound manner, in the next 5-10 years. If, indeed, there is such an obligation on India to do so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister for Environment and Forest, who fortunately is present here today, to enlighten the House on this issue.

Secondly, Sir, the Kyoto Protocol of which India is not a signatory in so far as emission reductions are concerned, but India is indeed a signatory to the UN Framework Convention of Climate Change. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether one of the key features, which India had agitated for and got incorporated in the Kyoto Protocol, was the Clean Development Mechanism.

The Clean Development Mechanism was basically a mechanism evolved to protect the interests of countries like India, which although is a major energy consumer, is not a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.

Sir, with 16 per cent of the world's population, India accounts for less than 5 per cent of greenhouse gas emission. My own calculation shows that by 2020, even if India grows at 7 per cent per year, although we will account for 18 per cent of the world's population, we would still account for less than 10 per cent of the world's greenhouse gasses. Now, in order to protect our interests, the clean development mechanism was instituted as a part of the Kyoto Protocol. I would like the hon. Minister to enlighten us as to what is the relationship between the clean development mechanism through which India stands to gain substantially by way of technology and projects and the new convention that has been signed.

Thirdly, I would request the hon. Minister to make a detailed statement on what exactly this convention entails upon us because there was a tantalising statement at close, the statement that was adopted yesterday in the Laos, which says that these six countries would seek to extend this partnership with other countries as well. So, in other words, this is not just these six countries, but they are hoping to build a viable coalition of willing partners involving other countries of Asia, Africa and Europe as well. Are we seeing the birth of Kyoto-II? Are we seeing the birth of India's entry into international obligations on the environment which would necessarily involve emission reductions, which means really looking at how much coal we produce, how much methane we produce, how much nuclear electricity we produce. Sir, I would not have raised this issue had it not been for the fact that Parliament is in session. A very major convention has been signed in Laos and I would request the hon. Minister to take us into confidence sooner rather than later.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Jharkhand): Sir, I am very happy that my distinguished colleague, Mr. Jairam, has followed up on the point which I raised during Zero Hour yesterday in the House. He is quite right that yesterday it was speculative. There was a speculation in the media that such a convention was going to be entered into. I had also said that the indications were that the pact was going to be signed yesterday and that's how, indeed, it has happened. Now, it is a done deal. India has joined these other five countries in a regional pact. Our concern, Sir, and I suppose it cuts across party lines in this house, is if it relates to technology which will enable us to control the emission of greenhouse gases, there is no problem. But if it imposes any further obligation on a developing

country like India with regard to greenhouse gas emissions, then it's a very serious issue. That is where the Government owes us a clarification. I also share the concern of hon. Shri Jairam Ramesh that Parliament is in session and a very important agreement has been signed, a multilateral agreement, to supplement, compliment or strengthen, one does not know, the Kyoto Protocol. And the Kyoto Protocol, Sir, was a protocol where we, as I said yesterday, has played a very important role and we had protected the interests of developing countries like India by refusing to take equivalent obligations compared to the developed countries. USA, Sir, is the largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world and , therefore, US did not join the Kyoto Protocol. US has always resisted the Kyoto Protocol. Australia did not join the Kyoto Protocol for its own reasons. They have also always opposed the Kyoto Protocol. Now, when India joins countries like US and Australia, then naturally concerns arise in our mind.

I would also like to make another point for the consideration of the Government. When we have multilateral agreements, multilateral agreements under the United framework, like the Kyoto Protocol, should it be supplemented by a regional pact like this? Or should it not be that we work with the partners? One hundred and forty countries, Sir, as I said yesterday have ratified the Kyoto Protocol. Should we not work with them to ensure that we make progress under the Kyoto Protocol framework rather than accepting the leadership of the US which clearly is opposed to the Kyoto Protocol? Sir, we have always resisted US advances on this. I am sorry if we have succumbed to this, then, it is a sad day for us. And I would like a clarification from the Government on this issue.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN-SOZ (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I wanted to say something because I have signed the Kyoto Protocol on behalf of the country. Just a minute. I do not know the background of the proposition. (*Interruptions*).

MR.DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are not starting another debate.

PROF.SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : I am not going into that. I will briefly say that US has continuously refused to sign the Kyoto Protocol. But India's position is not that we have just signed that Kyoto Protocol. We are a leader country, and with India and China coming together in 1997 in

G-77, we have produced the Kyoto Protocol. Recently, Russia has also signed it, and if US does not fall in line, there is a danger to mankind. Yesterday also, I raised this question, it was not answered by the hon. Minister. Perhaps, he could understand the crux of my proposal. My question is, we are a leader country. We are in touch with the European Union, and the whole world is with us on this issue. Now, my proposition is that our country must politely but very firmly take up this matter separately with the U.S. Government, and the U.S. Government should be urged to sign this Protocol as early as possible. Thank you.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, there should be a structures discussion on this issue.(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : This is not a debate. Let the Minister say what he wants to say (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, I must be very thankful to the hon. Members who have raised this important issue. I have perused the speeches which were made yesterday by the former External Affairs Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinhaji and others, and the submissions made now by Shri Jairam Ramesh and others. First of all, I want to say before the House that a misconception in the minds of some of the hon. Members, including hon. Shri Jairam Ramesh, that India is not a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol, should be erased. Prof. Sez has put it that we are a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol. But having signed the Kyoto Protocol, our stand is not only for India but for all the developing countries whoever be the developing countries, under the Kyoto Protocol, no commitment has been put on the head of the developing countries to reduce the emissions. Of course, the Kyoto Protocol was piloted to have a commitment on the developed countries to reduce their emissions. This is the background of the Kyoto Protocol. So, under the aegis of the Kyoto Protocol it self, as a signatory, we never made a commitment to the international community or the Kyoto Protocol that India is going to reduce the emissions. Of course, we were very categorical before the international forum that we will not we able to reduce our emission since we are paying due attention to the developmental activities and when we are having poverty and other development-oriented programmes. Sir, now the question which arises is that by making this statement, even I cannot say at this stage that it is a partnership deed that has been signed. It is a Vision Statement that has been given

collectively by Australia, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United States stating that we can consent about one step forward.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : What are you reading out ?

SHRI A. RAJA. : I am quoting the names of the countries. So, there is an agreement. It is a statement of vision that has been disclosed by these countries stating that we are coming nearer to complement the Kyoto Protocol. Without detriment to the Kyoto Protocol, we are coming together to make some efforts to reach the goal that has been contemplated in the Kyoto Protocol. So, I want to submit before the House that our commitment is not at all towards reducing our emissions in the Kyoto Protocol. In other words, I can say that the vision statement that has been given by all these countries is not at all detrimental to anything that has been contemplated in the Kyoto Protocol for our country. If they want any other detail, I can furnish it to them.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : Sir, this is a very important issue. This Vision Statement should come in the house, and there should be a structured debate on this ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give a note, it will be considered whether it should be discussed or not.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I have already given a notice for a Short Duration Discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. You wanted an intervention. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Before that, is it possible to get a copy of the Vision Statement today? ...(*Interruptions*)... At least, we can get a copy of the Vision Statement today. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Kalraj Mishra. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, once the issue has been raised..... ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI YASHWANAT SINHA: Sir, I would like to point out.....(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: A copy of the Vision Statement is to be laid before the Parliament.....

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: As soon as possible. ...(*Interruptions*)... it is to be laid as soon as possible.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I will circulate it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: And, Sir, I have seen the reports...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please don't convert it into a debate.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: No, I am not converting.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It was just an intervention and he wanted to have the reaction of the Minister.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I am just flagging a point for the Minister that the Ministry of Environment and Forests appears to have different views that the Planning Commission on this issue. Sir, I would like the Government to come out with one view, when he comes here, apart from the Vision Statement.

Bomb blast in Shramjeevi Express Train

श्री कलराज मिश्र: (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन, मैं, एक बड़ी दुखद दुर्घटना की तरफ सदन का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं। कल जौनपुर से लखनऊ की तरफ जाने वाली श्रमजीवी एक्सप्रेस, जो पटना से नई दिल्ली तक आती है, उसमें हरपालगंज स्टेशन के पास हरिहरपुर नामक स्थान पर एक बड़ा जबरदस्त बम-विस्फोट हुआ और मान्यवर, जो बोगी नंबर 98466/के थी, उसके पीछे एक जबरदस्त विस्फोट हुआ। सारी बोगी ध्वस्त हो गई और उसमें 17 लोगों की मृत्यु हो गई, 125 लोग घायल हैं, जिनमें 20 लोग बड़ी गंभीर स्थिति में हैं।

श्रीमन, माननीय रेल मंत्री जी ने स्वयं यह बयान दिया था और स्वीकार भी किया था कि गया से धनबाद तक जाने वाली जितनी गाड़ियां थीं, उनकी जांच कराई गई और उसमें लगभग 20 बम-विस्फोटक पदार्थ पाए गए थे। बिहार की तरफ से आने वाली जितनी गड़ियां हैं, उनमें किसी न किसी रूप से आतंकवादी ताकतें विस्फोटक पदार्थ लेकर चल रही हैं। इसकी जिस तरीके से गहन जांच होना चाहिए, उसके अभाव के कारण यह दुर्घटना घटित हुई है।

मान्यवर, वाराणसी के पास वाराणसी सिटी स्टेशन से और उसके बीच में भी जांच हो रही थी, लेकिन पाया नहीं गया कि कहां कमी आई, कहां चूक हो गई। इस बात को ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। इसमें जिनकी मृत्यु हुई, यद्यपि यू॰पी॰ सरकार ने एक लाख रुपया देने की घोषणा की है, लेकिन इसके बारे में विशेष ध्यान देकर आपको इसकी घोषणा करना चाहिए और घायलों का समुचित तौर पर उपचार होना चाहिए, उनको उचित मुआवजा प्रदान करना चाहिए।